

Head's Introduction

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to the first issue of this year's Nidd News which has been slightly delayed by the unexpected interruption to the first week back in school. A decision to close the school in the very first week of a new school year is the very last thing any Headteacher would want to make but unfortunately the water damage and consideration for student safety made this completely unavoidable.

Not having any students in school meant we were able to give free access to the specialist team overseeing the cleanup operation and together with key members of the school's staff, they have made sure that students can return to school with minimal disruption.

Aptly, my focus with students in the first week was the importance of determination and effort. The idea that outstanding achievement is more to do with passionate perseverance than 'natural ability'. Every year the school's progress scores compared to national show that Nidderdale students are motivated by great teaching and incredible support to be the very best that they can be.

Our new Year 7 students have made an impressive start to their membership of Team Nidderdale, with most achieving at least three positive points on Classcharts in their first three days. At the end of our first first week, an incredible 99% of Classcharts points across the school are positive.

Kath Jordan, Headteacher

Aiming Higher

As you may have read in the local press, we have been celebrating another year of great GCSE results. As well as the highlights of students achieving multiple Grade 9s and 40% of all of our students achieving at least 1 Grade 7-9 or A/A*, we were also celebrating many individual success stories with students who had overcome a wide array of personal challenges.

As well as celebrating our Class of 2018 GCSE results in August, we were delighted to celebrate the amazing achievements of our new Year 11 students as they collected results for GCSE subjects taken at the end of Year 10. Particular praise goes to students studying French with a 77% Grade 4-9 (A*-C) pass rate and an incredible 36% at Grades 7-9 (A*/A).

Molly Howard and Joe Webb both achieved an incredible Grade 9. Hannah Reinsch, Olivia Yates, Amy Robertshaw and Steph Graham all achieved Grade 8. This is a fantastic achievement from students taking a GCSE in one year - tres bon et merci Madame Overend!

Forthcoming events

- 13 September – Welcome to KS4 Evening
- 20 September – Open Evening
- 24 September – School Closed – Nidderdale Show
- 11 October – Y7 Pastoral Evening

Nidderdale Show

A reminder that the school will be closed on Monday 24th September, Nidderdale Show Day. Once again this year, the Show Committee have very kindly allowed the school to make a donation in exchange for tickets that will enable every member of our Nidderdale High School community to attend the Show. Nearer the time we will issue a stamped ticket to every student aged 12+ which will enable them to attend the Show free of charge (children aged 11 and under do not require a ticket). The Show Committee have asked us to remind you that these tickets can only be used by Nidderdale students and cannot be passed on to other family members or friends.

Nidderdale High School staff will be attending training at school during the morning and will attend the Show during the afternoon. We look forward to seeing lots of our students and their families at this important community event.

Welcome to Key Stage 4

On Thursday 13th September we will be holding our annual information evening for students in Year 10 and their parents. With lots of information about GCSE courses and grading, homework and assessment, support through Year 10 & 11, as well as essential information about Work Experience, we hope as many parents as possible will be able to join us.

Please reply to the school comms message about this event to confirm your attendance or return the slip to the office. We look forward to seeing you next Thursday at 6pm.

Staff News

In our end of term newsletter we updated you about lots of new staffing appointments. We are also delighted to welcome Miss Wilcock to the PE teaching team, she will also be working 1:1 with some students to maximise achievement for all.

Our full staff list is available [here](#).

Some of you may remember that last year Ms Adams, Teacher of Art here at Nidderdale and professional artist, was chosen to exhibit at the Great North Art Show at Ripon Cathedral. We are really proud to confirm that she is exhibiting for a second year at this important art show. Please make time to view her amazing and inspirational work at Ripon Cathedral. The exhibition runs until September 23rd.

Senior Student Team

We are pleased to announce the appointment of our new Senior Student Team. Led by Joe Webb, Head Boy and Hannah Reinsch, Head Girl, who will be supported by Co-Deputies, Maria Brown, Amy Robertshaw, Joss Salton and Will Hall, the team of 14 students will take on a whole range of responsibilities in school. Their duties will include representing the school at key events, supporting and mentoring younger students, supporting Directors of Learning and Lead Teachers in specific subjects, meeting with the Extended Leadership Team to discuss teaching and learning priorities and promoting good behaviour choices during break times. We are confident that they will make a really positive impact on Team Nidderdale this year.



Reminders

Energy drinks are not permitted in school and will be confiscated if seen. You will probably have read over the summer about renewed concerns over health risks to children posed by these drinks. Please encourage your child to avoid these drinks before school starts.

Aerosol deodorant should not be brought to school. These sprays can aggravate allergies and asthma, especially when sprayed in confined spaces. They can also set off sensitive smoke detectors in school. Our unscheduled fire drill last week was most likely triggered by deodorant sprayed in the PE changing room.

Conduct on the school buses - please remind your child of the importance of sensible and considerate behaviour on school transport. It is essential for the safety of all that the bus drivers can focus on driving without distraction. A copy of the school transport code of conduct can be found [here](#).



Hot meal deals @£2.50 w/c 10 Sept:

Monday: Cumberland Sausage and Mash, Choc Chip Rock Bun
Tuesday: Turkey with Tomato and Bacon Sauce, Apple Pie
Wednesday: Cottage Pie and peas, Lemon Drizzle
Thursday: Homemade Pizza, Raspberry Mousse
Friday: Beef Balti and Savoury Rice, Melon Slice

The full menu is always available on the school website and [here](#).

Open Evening

On Thursday 20th September we will be welcoming families of Year 5 and 6 children to our annual Open Evening. Our reputation for achieving incredible results for all young people through great teaching, flexible and often bespoke curriculum offer and first class pastoral care, means that we will be expecting to meet families from a wide geographical area stretching well beyond our traditional catchment area. Our existing students are always keen to attend this evening to let everyone know what a great school they attend. We will need plenty of tour guides and subject helpers so please look out for permission letters coming home soon.

Invitation to an open evening at NIDDERDALE HIGH SCHOOL
20th September 2018
from 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm
Headteacher's address at 7.00 pm

All are welcome - particularly Year 5/6 children and parents/carers.

NIDDERDALE HIGH SCHOOL
www.nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk
admin@nidderdale.n-yorks.sch.uk
@Nidderdale, 01423711246

Low Wath Road, Folesley Bridge, Harrogate, HG3 5HL

Nidderdale High School is a "Good school overall and in all areas" - Ofsted

We are proud of:

- Consistently good GCSE results (above national averages)
- Progress in GCSE English and Maths which is well above national averages
- Progress made by all students across a range of GCSE subjects placing us above average for progress across the country
- Being one of the top 100 non-selective state schools in England for sustained improvement (2014)
- Outstanding pastoral care; trust is a key feature
- Student / teacher relationships; staff are wholly committed to the welfare and education of the students
- Innovative curriculum to meet the needs of all students

There is a further opportunity for parents to see the learning environment on 10th October from 9.15 am - 11.00 am. Please telephone school to make an appointment.

"Students value the excellent relationships they have with their teachers" - Ofsted 2017